## Overview 2017

## B.A.D YOUR CHOICE, USE YOUR VOICE

## Introduction and background

- The BAD Youth Forum first began in 2001.
- In 2017 60 young people were democratically elected representing each secondary school (except ELUTEC), including Trinity, who opt to use an adapted form of the election process to suit their pupils needs.
- Up to 3 female and 3 male representatives are elected from each school, aged 13-19 or 25 with a disability).
- At the start of the year the BAD Youth Forum held a Full Forum meeting aimed at educating them about local, regional and national

politics. In addition to this young people also discussed current youth issues. These included: Child Sexual Exploitation, education, facilities for young people, LGBT issues, bullying, opportunities for young people and health.



First Full Forum meeting photo (February 2017)



First Full Forum meeting photo (February 2017)

## Team building day

FEBRUARY 2017

At the start of every BAD Youth Forum year we hold a team building event.

In 2017 the event was held at the Vibe Youth Centre.

Young people participated in a range of games to encourage them to get to know each other better and start to build relationships.

The day was attended by 45 of the newly elected members.



## Election of the 2017 Young Mayor

Following our initial meetings the BAD Youth Forum came together again to elect our new Young Mayor for 2017.

6 young people put themselves forward to become the next Young Mayor, with only returning Forum members being eligible. Each candidate was given the opportunity to present a short speech about why they should be elected.

Following this a democratic election was held and Vaisaly Gnanapandithan was elected.

# B.A.D YOUR CHOICE, USE YOUR VOICE

## Young Mayor sub-group achievements 2017

## Introduction and background

For the second successive year, the Barking and Dagenham Young Mayor was elected from the democratically elected BAD Youth Forum membership. 6 candidates put themselves forward.

In 2017 Vaisaly Gnanapandithan was elected as the third Barking and Dagenham Young Mayor. Vaisaly was extremely pleased to be elected and vowed to commit 100% to her role.

The responsibility of the Young Mayor is to work in partnership with a BAD Youth Forum subgroup to decide their charity appeal for the year and arrange social action projects to raise money, as well as attending key events as an ambassador of young people. Once the Young Mayor sub- group had formed, the group started working on their first task; choosing a local youth charity to fundraise for. The group carried out extensive research in to the possibilities and within the group voted to reduce it to 3 options. This was then taken to a public youth vote amongst wider forum members and their peers.

Having consulted with more than 200 young people the group collated the responses and Carers of Barking and Dagenham's Young Carers project was confirmed as the Young Mayor's charity for 2017.



Vaisaly Gnanapandithan, Barking and Dagenham's third Young Mayor

## Charity appeal 2017

Barking and Dagenham Young Carers charity supports young people who may live in a family where someone is affected by a long term illness, disability, mental health issue, alcohol or substance misuse or HIV. The Young Carers service works with young people aged 8-18.

Recently the service have found that children under the age of 8 are also caring for relatives, but due to their age have not been able to access support from Young Carers as they are not funded to provide this.

Young Carers made a commitment to working with



these children, with agreement from our group that this should be funded from the money raised by the Young Mayor BAD Youth Forum sub-group.

One of the Young Mayor subgroup members is also a Young Carer so this made the charity particularly special to the group.

#### QUOTE FROM SHARON (YOUNG CARERS FAMILY SERVICES MGR)

"BEING NOMINATED BY THE YOUNG MAYOR'S CHOSEN CHARITY MADE US FEEL VERY PROUD THAT YOUNG PEOPLE RECOGNISED THE IMPACT THAT CARING HAD ON YOUNG CARERS IN THE BOROUGH"



## Setting up fundraising events

A fundraising target of £3000 was set. At the start of the year, the group had to consider which events they thought would raise the most amount of money for the charity as well as raising people's awareness of what the charity does locally.

Some group members were part of the Young Mayor group from 2016, and they brought a wealth of knowledge about what kinds of events are successful or not. After careful consideration the group chose a range of events which included bucket shaking at borough events, a charity cricket match (arranged by James from Trinity School), a series of cake sales at different venues, nonuniform days in schools, movie nights, a charity football match (arranged by Tedy, Deputy Chair of the forum) and a sponsored canoeing event organised and completed by the Young Mayor herself.

#### FUNDRAISING 2017



#### Cake sale

Vaisaly and Anna held a cake sale and raffle at Barking Town Hall raising a total of £85



NCS Cake sales We held 2 cake sales with NCS raising a total of £39

BUCKET SHAKING AT ONE BOROUGH DAY





Charity Football match held at Barking abbey 3G pitches in August 2017. The event raised £115

Non-uniform days in schools:



raised £457



raised £364



raised £684

## Vaisaly's achievements as Young Mayor

## Completing a 50-mile canoeing challenge

Vaisaly set up a Just Giving page and successfully raised £1174

#### LIST OF EVENTS ATTENDED BY VAISALY IN 2017

- Women's Empowerment Month launch
- Women's Empowerment Month Awards
- Valence House Exhibition
- Mayor's Inauguration
- Young Carers Prom
- 3 NCS Dragons Den style events, supporting local young people
- One Borough Day
- African Showcase Event in Barking
- Witten Onion Festival Event, accompanying the Mayor
- Houses of Parliament visit
- Mayor of London Question
  Time event at Jo
  Richardson
- First Give social action project (JRCS)

"2017 has been a successful year. I've made great connection with many people, I wish the next young mayor all the best luck. My role as a young mayor, has brought my attention to many positives and negatives of the borough, which I look forward to taking action on, in the near future". Vaisaly (November 2017)





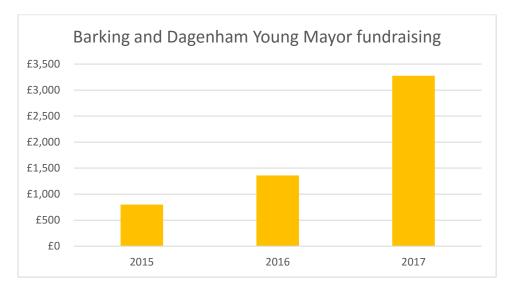


## Total amount raised



## (target was £3000)

This was raised across 15 events in total and represents a large increase in the amount raised by the Barking and Dagenham Young Mayor, year on year, as shown in the chart below:



"At the end of this journey we feel very proud of the Young Mayor and the BAD Youth Forum and how they worked in real partnership with staff and Young Carers within our organisation to raise funds. We would like to thank the staff in the Integrated Youth Services who have supported the fundraising with real passion and commitment. Bringing funds to enable us to raise awareness and support Young Carers from the age of 5 to 8 years has all been enabled by the Young Mayor and the BAD Youth Forum fundraising.

What amazing young people LBBD have living in the borough both those with caring roles and those who have supported them."

Sharon Cumberbatch, Family Services Manager, Young Carers

Child Sexual Exploitation Sub-group achievements 2017

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## Introduction and background

Following initial discussions about what campaigns the sub-group should focus on for the year the sub-group met with a representative from Barnardo's who is currently working in the borough focusing on Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE). The group were interested to find out more about CSE and how it affects young people locally. Young people quickly realised what an important issue this is and chose to focus on CSE for 2017.

Young people discussed CSE at length, most notably the grooming process. Young people felt that prior to their meetings, they had little or no knowledge about the grooming process. After speaking to their peers, young people decided grooming would be the area they would focus on.

The group discussed many ways of sharing this important message with young people. One member of the group felt very passionately about this subject, she independently wrote a spoken word piece about the grooming process and highlighting the dangers to young people.

The group voted to use this piece as a basis for a short film to raise awareness around the grooming process.

## Believe in children M Barnardo's



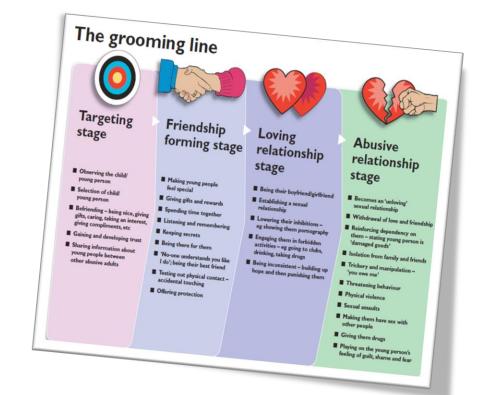
A total of 15 young people have been involved in the project, some of them are pictured above.

## Safeguarding

The aim of the film is to address the issue of CSE in our borough. The group wanted to do this by:

- Promoting what a healthy relationship should be like;
- Reinforcing the vital message that the blame for CSE does not sit with the victim;
- Educating young people about where to get help if they, or someone they know, needs help;
- Most importantly, raising young people's level of understanding about what grooming is, what it looks and feels like and the ways in which it can affect young people.

The aspiration for the film is that it is shared amongst schools, colleges, alternative education settings, youth clubs, and all other appropriate organisations,



in order to share the message with as many young people as possible. It will also be utilized by the borough's CSE Co-ordinator during CSE awareness week and at a forthcoming LSCB meeting, as well as in training professionals.

#### OUR MESSAGE

Child Sexual Exploitation is NOT your fault, there are people you can speak to for help. If you have a better understanding of CSE, you have knowledge that will help you to protect yourself and others.



## Health

During the course of this piece of work, young people gained a greater depth of knowledge about how CSE affects young people with regards to their physical, emotional and mental wellbeing.

5 members of the group were trained to become CSE ambassadors, enabling them to speak to other young people about CSE and raise awareness.

## Crime and

## disorder

Vital messages at the end of the film reassure victims that they are NOT responsible for the crime that has been committed.

It aims to educate young people about the change to the long standing, historical approach taken by police when dealing with victims of CSE who have been coerced in to committing crimes. Young people need to know they will be listened to and supported.

#### Stills from the CSE film



This is a Barking and Dagenham Youth Forum film about Child Sexual Exploitation. We made this film to raise awareness of the grooming process. This affects young people in our borough.







To view the film please visit the LBBD One Borough live page at

http://oneboroughlive.co.uk/videos/awareness-spot-signs-child-sexual-exploitation/

Quotes from participating forum members:

"The forum provided new information I didn't know in to serious subjects and was still exciting and interesting at the same time. A great experience overall" *Paige*, 14

"I enjoyed meeting new people and having the chance to give back to the community" Celine, 14

# B.A.D YOUR CHOICE, USE YOUR VOICE

## Young Inspectors Sub-group achievements 2017

## Introduction and background

At the start of 2017, 18 young people chose to join the Young Inspectors sub-group. The group are funded by Public Health to carry out mystery shop inspections of the Come Correct Condom Distribution (C-Card) Scheme.

After the group was formed, young people participated in training led by Youth Workers. The training equipped young people with the essential skills to assess a C-Card registration process, as part of a mystery shop inspection.

Young people learnt about each of the elements that should be included in the registration process and were given opportunities to participate in role plays. These role plays enabled young people to experience the process first hand and alleviate any embarrassment they are feeling about the process. Following the extensive training Young Inspectors completed a series of practice inspections. During these inspections new members to the group were mentored by experienced members, this helped to boost young people's confidence.

During this part of their training young people also learnt how to complete an effective report detailing their findings and any recommendations they would like to make. This part of the process is key to ensuring pharmacies are able to improve their service based on young people's experiences.



#### Young Inspectors group

This picture was taken during inspections out on our mini-bus.



#### **Report writing**

After EVERY inspection each Young Inspector completes a report about their findings, paying particular attention to the recommendations of how the service could improve in the future.

### Health:

## Young Inspectors' impact

There are a total of 26 pharmacies in Barking and Dagenham that offer the Come Correct Condom Distribution scheme.

During the course of 2017, Young Inspectors completed 150 inspections, across all pharmacies.

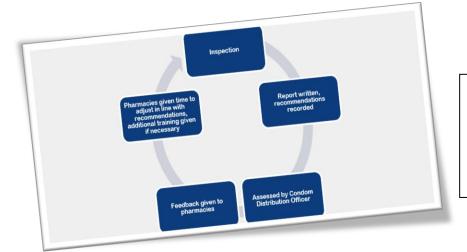
Each pharmacy was visited on numerous occasions, ranging from 3 visits for the better performing pharmacies to 6 visits for pharmacies in need of improvement. Youth workers took responsibility for ensuring visits were planned based on previous performance to ensure adequate monitoring of each pharmacy.

In order to share outcomes from each inspection, the Young Inspectors have a close relationship with the borough's Condom Distribution Officer, Heather McKelvey. Each report is sent to Heather as soon as it is completed, Heather then shares both the positive and negative outcomes of



the inspection with the pharmacy lead. The response from each pharmacy is then shared with Young Inspectors and the next round of inspections are planned. This year, the level of quality assurance has

resulted in an improvement in **18** pharmacies in the borough. This is the greatest level of impact Young Inspectors have seen to date.



Recent Teenage Pregnancy figures show that Barking and Dagenham's teenage pregnancy conceptions for young women aged under 18 are the lowest they've ever been. It is hoped that the success of the Young Inspectors' programme is contributing to this.

This approach to quality assuring the condom distribution service has helped to place Barking and Dagenham top in London for young people being registered to the scheme and repeat encounters ('top ups'). Barking and Dagenham is seen as a best practice example across London.

To give an understanding of how successful the C-card scheme in Barking and Dagenham is, please see figures from quarter 1 and quarter 2 below:

1345 young people were registered to the scheme,

2866 repeat encounters were recorded and

35,102 condoms were distributed.

## Example of a registered Young Inspectors inspections report



Section D:			$\frown$
Were Fraser guidelines mentioned if you are under 16 years of age?	YES	NO	OVER 16
			$\bigcirc$
What recommendations do you have to improve the service of this pharmacy?			
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
Name or Description of Staff Member Name?			
Or			
Male/female:			
Hair colour:			
Ethnicity:			
Glasses? Age approx 20's30's 40's 50's?: (drag circle over			
Age applot - 20 5 50 5 40 5 50 sr. (triag title over)	/		

### Example of a non-registered Young Inspectors inspections report



## Additional forum activities 2017

## B.A.D YOUR CHOICE, USE YOUR VOICE

## Engagement and Participation

In 2017 members of the BAD Youth Forum participated in various meetings and events, representing the forum.

These include:

- Patient Engagement Forum;
- Children's Services Select Committee (CSSC) meetings;
- Hosting an anti-terrorism meeting to discuss youth involvement and how to tackle radicalization;
- Attended the annual Youth Parade
- Attended a visit to the Houses of Parliament with a Question and Answer session hosted by Jon Cruddas MP

Another feature of the BAD Youth Forum work plan is consultations. The Forum is approached throughout the year by the council and other agencies asking for their views on a range of topics. In 2017, the forum participated in 11 consultations, ranging from topics such as crime and policing to Drugs and Alcohol misuse service commissioning. Young people represented the forum well, giving valuable insight in to discussions.

See below for more information about consultations conducted in 2017.



Question Time with Jon Cruddas MP Young people enjoyed having the opportunity to ask questions. Issues included education, radicalism, free school meals and Brexit.



Trinity School representative One representative from Trinity Special School quizzed his MP about fairer accessibility for young people with SEN and Disabilities when attempting to pass their driving theory test.

## Consultations

Here is a list of consultations the Forum actively participated in during 2017:

- A consultation looking at work experience, apprentices and links with business for the Children's Services Select Committee;
- A consultation aimed at generating ideas for the Children's Services Select Committee workplan, all ideas were presented to the committee and supporting officers for consideration in the future.
- A Parsloes Park facilities consultation, looking at the usage of the park and what can be done to encourage more young people to use the facilities on offer
- A Drugs and Alcohol misuse service commissioning consultation led by the council's commissioning team. The consultation challenged young people to think about their needs and the needs of other for this service. All comments were taken in to consideration as part of the service commissioning process.
- A Brexit debate, led by representatives from My Life, My Say; feedback from the debate was fed back to

the All Party Parliamentary Group in April, outlining young people's feelings about the Brexit process and how they anticipate this will affect them.

- A condom designing competition consultation, asking young people to submit ideas for future campaigns in order to encourage more young people to practice safe sex.
- A consultation focusing on the borough's Great Weight Debate. The young people were consulted by colleagues from the borough's Health Improvement Team. Young people answered a range of questions about what affects their eating habits and designed campaigns and ideas to help to tackle the obesity issue among children and young people in the borough.
- A Community Solutions consultation looking at the brand and potential name for the service. The consultation raised awareness of what Community Solutions is and how it might affect young people and their families in the future.
- A consultation about what can be done locally to attract young people to continue



their education in Year 12 and 13 in Barking and Dagenham.

- A Police consultation looking at the potential to set up a Youth Independent Advisory Group (YIAG) in B & D. The YIAG would give young people a direct route to influencing policing initiatives and where resources should be focused locally. Some members put their name forward to join the YIAG once established. Two representatives attended Waltham Forest YIAG to observe their meeting.
- Finally, a CSE consultation with wider forum members educating young people about the dangers of CSE and how to identify when you are the victim of CSE and what to do.

#### YOUTH PARADE



## Young Carer and BAD Youth Forum member

Young people paraded through Barking proudly displaying project signs as part of the annual youth parade.



BAD Youth Forum members with Barking and Dagenham Mayor Young people organised a fundraising stall as part

of their work to raise money for Young Carers.







Forum members participated in a trip to Stubbers, participating in a range of activities including canoeing, high ropes and climbing. The young people enjoyed the opportunity to try new activities and challenge themselves.

